



OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
NEWS RELEASE

JAMES R. AIONA, JR.
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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**LT. GOVERNOR AIONA OUTLINES ADMINISTRATION'S
ANTI-DRUG INITIATIVES**

**\$46.3 million proposed for substance abuse
treatment, prevention, law enforcement**

HONOLULU — Lt. Governor James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr. today announced the Administration's drug control action plan, which includes a series of anti-drug initiatives the Lingle-Aiona Administration will propose to the Legislature for the 2005 session. The measures are part of a coordinated balanced approach the Administration is taking to fight illegal substance abuse in the state through increased law enforcement, treatment and prevention. The proposed legislation is in addition to the \$46.3 million the Administration has proposed in its biennium budget (fiscal years 2006 and 2007) to sustain anti-drug efforts, and enhance substance abuse treatment, prevention and law enforcement programs.

"Our plan is a coordinated, balanced approach to a serious problem that has been plaguing our state for over a decade," said Lt. Governor Aiona, who outlined the Administration's initiatives during a news conference attended by law enforcement leaders, drug treatment providers, educators and youth service coordinators, mental health professionals, community groups and faith-based organizations.

"By following this balanced approach and ensuring the efforts by government, the private sector and community groups are fully integrated and coordinated, our plan will be successful when completely implemented," said the Lt. Governor.

"The measures and funding levels we are proposing are designed to provide treatment services to those who need them, prevent illicit drug use before it starts, and give law enforcement officials the tools needed to stop the manufacture and distribution of illegal drugs," said Tamah-Lani Noh, the state drug control liaison. "This balanced approach is a sound investment that will result in making our neighborhoods safer."

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The Administration's legislative proposals include measures to:

Shut Down Illegal Drug Houses

Improves and enhances law enforcement personnel's ability to use temporary restraining orders against suspected drug dealers banning them from entering the premises of a suspected drug house. This measure would protect the identity of concerned neighbors who report on drug houses. It would also allow for the suspension or revocation of business, professional or liquor licenses in appropriate circumstances. Establishes a rapid response unit which will immediately respond to community complaints regarding suspected illegal drug activity.

Control the Sale of Drugs and Equipment Used to Make Illegal Drugs

Limits the retail sale of over-the-counter drugs that can be used to manufacture crystal methamphetamine or "ice." These include drugs containing pseudoephedrine and ephedrine. A separate measure would give law enforcement personnel greater ability to take action against individuals who sell or distribute equipment, products, materials and other drug paraphernalia that can be used to grow, manufacture or ingest illegal substances. These include pipes, syringes, testing equipment and certain chemicals.

Toughen Sentencing Laws – Mandatory Sentencing

Provides for a mandatory sentence of 30 years to life for habitual violent criminals and requires that felons convicted of a class "A" drug offense and repeat drug offenders be incarcerated.

Require Jail Time for Buying Liquor for Minors

Requires a mandatory jail sentence for any adult who buys liquor for a minor. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is seen as a precursor to illegal drug use.

\$46.3 Million for Substance Abuse Prevention / Treatment / Law Enforcement

In addition to the proposed legislative bills, the Lingle-Aiona Administration has included \$46.3 million in its biennium budget base to sustain current levels of funding that were authorized under Act 41 during the last legislative session. The budget calls for \$19.8 million each year in FY06 and FY07, the same level that was approved in FY05, for various drug treatment and prevention programs, as well as law enforcement under the Departments of the Attorney General, Health, Human Service and Public Safety. The Administration has also added \$2 million each year for community-based substance abuse prevention programs, over \$1 million each year for adolescent residential treatment and school-based counseling and treatment programs, and over a quarter million dollars per year for the Drug Nuisance Abatement Unit.

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The drug control action plan was developed with input from a community-based group of 90 individuals who focused on five key areas to control illegal substance abuse: Community Mobilization, Legal Issues, Multi-Sector Collaboration, Prevention and Treatment. The participants focused on developing short- and long-term goals, first outlining action steps to be implemented within the next two to three years, then outlining a long-term plan to guide the state through the next 10 to 20 years.

A video of the Lt. Governor's news conference is posted on his Web site at:
www.hawaii.gov/ltgov/newsconferences

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